

THE ECHO

HALIBURTON COUNTY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2009

www.haliburtonecho.ca

Vol. 126 No. 8 \$1.35 INCL. GST

Wilberforce fights to keep its school

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

There is no easy solution to combat the shrinking enrolment at Cardiff and Wilberforce schools that triggered a program and accommodation review process this fall.

At Wilberforce Elementary School Wednesday evening parents and community members gathered for the public input meeting held by the committee that will ultimately advise the school board on whether to keep the schools open.

Predictably, all those attending wanted Wilberforce school to remain open. Letters read at the meeting from Cardiff residents wanted the Cardiff school to stay.

The only option not on the table is the status quo, the group was told.

"I have learned what an important role these small community schools play in the community itself," said WES staff member Jayne Van Dusen.

"Just like the community library and medical centre, which this community recently fought to keep both open, the elementary school contributes in much the same way to the whole of the community. Start to take these things away and we may have commenced the erosion process of this community as we now know it," she said.

See **School** page 22

Changes to water act may open floodgates to development: groups

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

Buried in the federal government's budget document is an unlikely bill – an amendment to the Navigable Waters Protection Act – that critics say could fundamentally change the way development on our lakes and rivers is managed.

It is being overlooked, they say, because it has been quietly inserted in a place where no one would be looking for it, with no announcement, discussion or media attention.

See **Feds** page 22



MATT JAMES/Echo

Concentrating on having fun

While others lace up their skates, Will Cranley, 6, curls his tongue and stick-handles a pine cone on Head Lake on February 14. Will and his family drove from Peterborough to participate in Haliburton's inaugural Frost Festival. The outdoor skating rink was just one of dozen of activities throughout the Family Day long weekend that attracted hundreds of people to Head Lake Park. For more Frost Fest photos turn to pages 12 and 13.

Echo and Times up for 11 awards

The team of writers, photographers, graphic artists and sales staff that bring you the *Haliburton County Echo* and *Minden Times* every week is up for a total of 11 provincial awards.

The Ontario Community Newspaper Association announced the top three finalists in its annual awards competition on Friday. The awards are open to every community newspaper in the province.

"I'm extremely proud of our dedicated staff," says general manager David Zilstra. "We all live in Haliburton County and believe in our communities. That's why ev-

eryone works so hard to bring you the best stories, photos and advertising opportunities possible."

Both the *Echo* and the *Times* have been judged one of the top three newspapers in their circulation category.

The *Minden Times* is in the running against the *Collingwood Enterprise-Bulletin* and the *New Hamburg Independent*.

The *Echo* is up against the *New Liskeard Temiskaming Speaker* and the *Parry Sound North Star*.

See **Teamwork** page 18

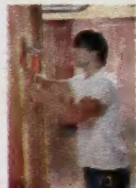


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Dysart proposes to increase building fees 10%

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the February 9 meeting of Dysart et al council.

Building permit fees may go up by 10 per cent and new fees could be introduced if the proposal by building official Dan Sayers is passed.

In a memo to council, Sayers wrote that there would be a minimum permit fee of \$100, changing the previous deck fee from \$75. The demolition fee is also proposed to increase from \$50 to \$75.

Sayers also proposed adding a new category called "industrial" which would distinguish warehouses, sawmills and self-serve storage from commercial developments. This would mean a cheaper rate for those industrial buildings.

There will be a public meeting on the proposed fees before they are voted on.

The problem with dogs

Dogs turned over to the municipal pound are staying for extended periods and are costing hundreds of dollars before they are either adopted or euthanized, said bylaw officer Matthew Aldom in a memo to council.

"We have had dogs in the pound for up to nine days this year," the memo said.

Council agreed that dogs should be kept for as short a period as possible. Legally, they must be kept for three days, which costs \$83.08.

Winter parking woes

Council is considering restricting parking along some town roads during the winter season.

The roads department was unable to plow Cedar Avenue one day in January because of the number of cars parked along the side of the road and the bylaw department received a letter from Laurie Thibadeau complaining of congestion on Cedar Ave.

"Time has now come, as I find the cars parking on Ce-

dar Avenue to be not only a huge nuisance, but also a possible accident waiting to happen," Thibadeau wrote.

Businesses along Cedar Ave. have been asked to use the municipal parking lot by Head Lake Park instead.

Council is consulting with the roads department about which other roads should have restricted winter parking.

Final steps in trail plan

The final section of the Head Lake Trail will cost \$1.2 million to install a boardwalk along the eastern shoreline of Head Lake, Dave Bishop and Barrie Martin told council.

The trail currently does not have a connection between Harmony Road on Highway 118 and the park.

"The proposed boardwalk trail will consist of two segments: an anchored floating dock with hand rail/barrier through the open water wetland to the north, and a rigid frame structure on piles for the remainder of the trail," a backgrounder provided by the group said.

"I'm very excited to see somebody with a construction-ready plan if the funding comes," Councillor Derek Knowles said.

Martin and Bishop did not ask for money, but did say they are looking for new trail committee members.

First winter fly-in is Saturday here & there

news and events worth noting

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO, on February 23, Canadian aviation history was made when John McCurdy piloted the Silver Dart over the ice-covered Bras d'Or Lake near Baddeck, N.S. To commemorate this event, the Stanhope Airport is sponsoring a winter fly-in. On the weekend of February 21 and 22, pilots are invited to pilot their own aircraft over the ice-covered lakes of the Haliburton Highlands and land at Haliburton-Stanhope airport for a hot chocolate and a bowl of chili. Everyone is invited to join in the celebration. For further details visit www.stanhopeairport.com.

Thursday's rain and warm temperatures may have given the organizers of the Haliburton Dog Sled Derby a few anxious moments but they were a boon to skaters. By Saturday, the return of cold weather turned many local lakes into skating rinks. We've even heard of one woman who skated the entire length of Kennesis Lake. One snow, of course, and the rinks get buried but it sure was fun while it lasted.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Haliburton Village BIA
Monday, Feb. 23 • 7pm
 at The Rails End Gallery
 23 York St., Haliburton

Purpose: To receive Treasurer's Report and Proposed '09 Budget
 - Receive Nominations for and Install '09 Officers
 - Invited Speakers

All Members and Interested Parties Welcome
 Come out and Support YOUR BIA

NOTE: "New Officers Needed"

For information call: Jim Frost, Administrator
 Haliburton Village BIA 705-457-4031

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT TENDER

Ministry of Transportation
 Northeastern Region

MTO CONTRACT NUMBER: 50-09-10
 TENDER NUMBER: OSS-077658
 MERX REFERENCE NUMBER: 168767

CLOSING DATE: March 9, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.
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WORK OF: Operational Services.

LOCATION: Huntsville Area.

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ECHO

news

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

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Johnson hopes voters choose local

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

It is hard to be a good local representative if you're not actually local, Liberal candidate Rick Johnson says.

Johnson is hinging much of his run in the March 5 byelection on being from the riding – having lived on a Pontypool farm since 1987 with his wife and two children.

"You can't learn local issues in three weeks. I don't profess to know all of the local issues now. I've been here for 22 years," he said in an interview last week.

In a race where two of four candidates come from Toronto, if the local card works, Johnson's ahead of the game.

The school board chairperson said it's not about whether a candidate can rattle off a list of local concerns, but whether that candidate knows why the list exists. It's something only someone who has lived here can know, he said.

"It's more than just saying the hospital needs this piece of equipment or that, it's knowing why. It's knowing what the people need; what the demographics are of this community," he said.

Over the years of service on the school board and running in the last provincial election against former MPP Laurie Scott, who resigned to trigger this byelection, Johnson thinks he's learned more about who he's serving and what their needs are.

On his to-do list: finding jobs to reduce poverty, increasing broadband Internet coverage, strengthening community services for seniors and continuing to improve education.

He's visibly upset when he hears that NDP leader Howard Hampton called him the "poster-child for Dalton McGuinty's failed education plan."

"It's fairly insulting to the teachers and the children and the parents that work so hard to get their kids to achieve," Johnson responded.

"We've made a hell of a lot of improvements to this area, beyond the buildings, but to student achievement. We had the largest jump in student achievement two years ago in the province. An eight per cent increase in our EQAO [standardized test] scores. That didn't come as an accident – it came because we put in policies and programs to make things work," he said.

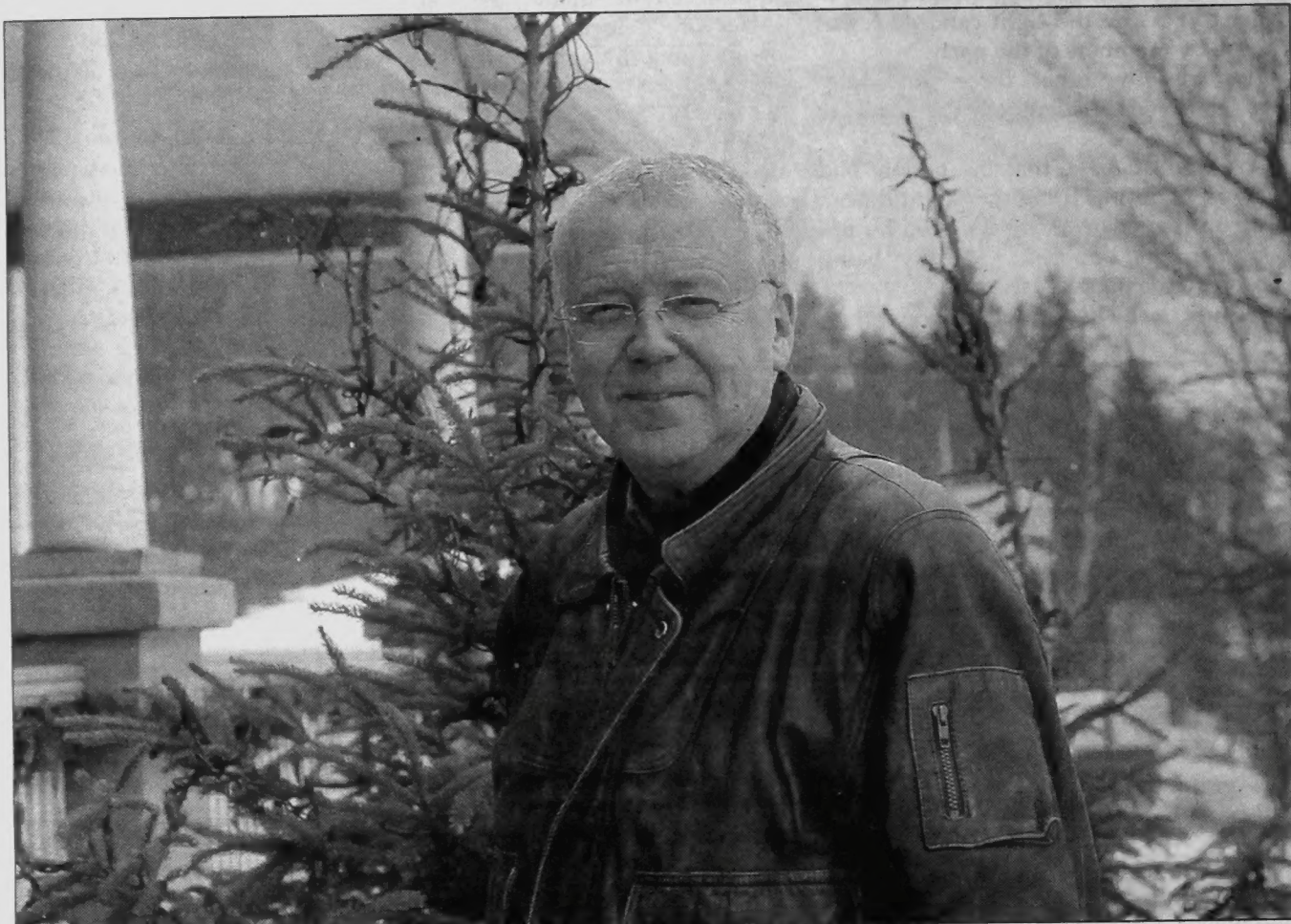
"The graduation rate – the government was shooting for an 85 per cent graduation rate provincially – we're up around 97 per cent in this board," he said.

Johnson and his wife Terri Crawford have made their living singing. They met in high school in Winnipeg and spent 20 years touring together in the rock group, the Terri Crawford Band. They even opened for the Beach Boys.

Later, as their kids grew up, they modified their musical genre and formed Terri and Rick, a children's band, which has four albums out.

If you go to their website, you can just make out Rick's long locks in the distinctly '70s album shots.

MATT JAMES/Echo



Liberal candidate Rick Johnson stopped by the *Echo* Wednesday to talk about his political history, his goals for the riding and why being local is a big deal in this byelection.

Johnson's family life inspires some of his campaign promises.

His two kids are both in college now and he hopes they will move back to the area to raise their own kids – but that's a tough sell when the jobs in the riding are so limited.

"How do you compete with countries that are paying a dollar a day in wages? We have to be smarter and that's going to come through training our workforce," he said.

Job creation would also help the poverty situation in Haliburton County, as well as expanding high-speed Internet to allow businesses to set up here.

"Once the cottagers go home the people that are here trying to earn a living, it's a struggle. There's not a lot of employment up here; the travel and tourism side and hospitality is where the work is going to be right now. Getting the connectivity for broadband, high-speed, will get more businesses to locate [here]," he said.

Another family dilemma inspired his idea to group seniors and students together to help students make money and seniors live independently.

"When my dad was thinking of retiring he was concerned about what he would do and I had an elderly aunt in Winnipeg that I went to visit at one point and she'd been snowed in for a day and a half and I thought, you

know, here's an opportunity," Johnson said.

He envisions students shovelling driveways, raking leaves and doing small household tasks, while seniors can stay in their homes longer freeing up hospital beds and long-term care facility spaces.

It is those kinds of small, local solutions that need a truly local representative, Johnson thinks.

He said that this area has been blessed with good local representation and that tradition should continue. It's one of the reasons he thinks this time around he'll win the seat.

"I've run four times for the school board in my local community and I've been successful. Last [election] I got 30 per cent of the vote and as my wife said, if we were playing a concert and sold 15,000 tickets we'd just about sell out Maple Leaf Gardens," he said.

Rick Johnson will be one of four candidates at the all-candidates forum Thursday, February 19 at Delta Pinestone Resort.

The forum begins at 7 p.m. and will include a period where voters can ask their questions to the candidates. The forum is sponsored by the *Haliburton Echo*, *Minden Times* and *Canoe FM*.

There will be a broadcast of the event on Sunday, February 22 at 4 p.m. on 100.9 *Canoe FM*.

Voting machines to assist voters with disabilities

Ontario will pilot new electronic vote tabulators equipped with ballot-marking devices during advance polls in the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock byelection.

The ballot-marking device will allow electors with visual impairments or physical disabilities to mark their ballot independently.

Electors who use the ballot marker will be given headphones that allow them to listen to the names of the

candidates and make their selection using a large keypad marked with braille and other symbols.

The ballot-marking device then produces a ballot which is inserted into the tabulator.

These machines are also equipped with foot pedals and a "sip and puff" device to allow voters with physical disabilities to choose their candidate independently.

Voters with limited vision can use the zoom control allowing the ballot to be shown onscreen in larger fonts.

"The secret ballot is the cornerstone of our democracy. Now for the first time in an Ontario provincial election, electors with disabilities can exercise their right to mark their ballot independently," said Greg Essensa, chief electoral officer.

Advance poll dates and times are listed on www.elections.on.ca.

Eligible electors may vote at any one of the advance polls in the electoral district.

Edwards calls for more school, hospital funding

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

After getting a late start on the campaign circuit, NDP candidate Lyn Edwards has positioned herself as the alternative to both front-runner candidates in the March 5 byelection.

Edwards won the nomination of her party just more than a week ago and has a lot of catching up to do; both PC leader John Tory and Liberal candidate Rick Johnson have been holding press conferences and touring the riding for weeks.

The wait was essential, Edwards said, in order to be sure the right candidate was chosen by members of the party.

The way the other three candidates were chosen defies democracy, she said in an interview.

"We don't believe that the people had a say in choosing [the other candidates]. It was a higher up party decision by appointment as opposed to really being chosen by the people," she said.

Because the NDP decided to choose their

candidate through the lengthier process of popular vote, Edwards has to distinguish herself quickly.

The mother of four and grandmother of two has lived in the area for 20 years and plans to use her experience in the Canadian Union of Public Employees to work for the people of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock.

"Union work is very political. There is the local union, and the provincial union and the national union, all of which work together to form a purpose to further issues of social justice. It has been a very political environment," she said.

Her union local represents city workers in Kawartha Lakes, where her website says she was a "tough negotiator" for better services and jobs.

When she talks specifically about what's needed in Haliburton County, her dedication to social services shows through.

"In your area you have both the education system and the health-care system, both of which are underfunded. If those were funded properly that would then



NDP candidate Lyn Edwards tells supporters at her nomination meeting that she plans to fight for jobs in the riding.

create jobs in your area," she said.

She also spoke of building affordable housing and improving municipal infrastructure like roads and bridges.

If elected, Edwards would be just one of 11 NDP MPPs in the legislature, but she doesn't see that as a disadvantage.

In fact, she says if the riding elected another Liberal, it would be more of the same: a lot of disappointments and broken promises.

"The NDP is the strong voice that makes sure that people don't get taken for granted. The Liberals are in power, but the horrible part of that is there's terrible underfunding of services we so desperately need. The things that we were promised by the McGuinty government have not been delivered, so what good is it to send Rick [Johnson] there so they cannot deliver what they promised? That makes no sense to me," she said.

She also notes her local roots, first living

in Fenelon Falls and then moving to Oakwood in 1997.

It's important for the MPP to be local, she said, for them to properly represent voters in the legislature.

"Living here for the last 20 years, having my children go through the school system, working here, shopping here, I truly believe I have a better handle of the needs of this riding as opposed to someone who has come in from somewhere else," she said.

Both John Tory and Green candidate Mike Schreiner come from Toronto.

Edwards will be at the all-candidates forum on Thursday, February 19 at Delta Pinestone Resort starting at 7 p.m.

The moderated discussion will be open to audience questions of the candidates. The forum is sponsored by the Haliburton Echo, Minden Times and Canoe FM.

It will be broadcast on Canoe 100.9 FM on Sunday, February 22 at 4 p.m.



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ALL-CANDIDATES DEBATE
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candidates have to say. You can also ask them
a question about the issue that is important to you.**

**The event is
Thursday, February 19
at the Ballroom of the Delta Pinestone Resort
starting at 7:00 p.m.**

**The evening will be taped by Canoe FM
and broadcast on Sunday, February 22
starting at 4:00 p.m.**



Highlands East councillors question doctors' rent

JENN WATT

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the February 10 meeting of Highlands East council.

Although council has reversed its decision to close the Wilberforce Medical Clinic, its operations are still contentious.

When Pat Simiana and Kathy Rogers came to formalize the clinic advisory committee's relationship to council, some councillors questioned why those using the building weren't paying more for its upkeep.

"[Medical staff pays] under two grand a year [in rent] and it costs us \$24,000 to run it? That's bang for your buck, isn't it?" Deputy-reeve Jim Mackie said. "Is it fair for the entire municipality to be paying that?"

Rogers and Simiana said they doubted anyone in the community would complain about tax dollars going to the building.

Rogers cautioned that the relationship between the staff and the municipality was still fragile, with two doctors still refusing to return after being evicted in the fall.

"I'd hesitate to ask them [for more rent] right now because I think they're already quite offended and we need to encourage them to come back again," Rogers said.

Councillor Gary Stoughton questioned why so few doctors' visits were happening right now.

"That's what we were promised; that there would be one here every week. That's never ever happened as long as I've been on council," he said.

Council passed a resolution to include the advisory group as a committee of council. Money has been allocated for doing some renovations to the building, putting paint on the walls and repairing some areas.

Rogers and Simiana suggested other fundraising, such as using money from the maple syrup festival to do more renovation work.

Taxpayers protest MPAC assessments

The municipality received dozens of letters asking that the tax levy be reduced to counteract the increase in property values.

"We have recently received our property assessment notice 2008 from MPAC. With the huge increase in assessed value there is obviously concern regarding the tax (mill) rate. The municipality needs to reduce this rate significantly as property owners on Paudash Lake will be looking at exorbitant tax bills," reads one of the form letters.

Council will be finalizing its budget – and tax rate – over the next month.

Land giveaway rebuffed

Fire chief Bill Wingrove is re-examining a potential deal with the Ministry of Natural Resources to protect Cown land from

fires. Responsibility for the 44,973 hectares of land would come with just less than \$6,500 for Highlands East, but Mackie said he worried it wouldn't be worth the cash.

"You're putting too much on those firefighters to do that," Mackie said.

Wingrove said he would do more research about whether the land would pose undue risk for the firefighters.



John Tory:
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By reducing job-killing taxes and red-tape for small businesses.

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And getting behind local projects, like a hotel and conference centre in Kawartha Lakes, and being a part of the PanAm Games.

By providing broadband service throughout the riding.

And finally, scrapping unfair MPAC property tax assessments.

As your MPP and Leader of the PC Party of Ontario, I will fight for jobs, small businesses and homeowners.

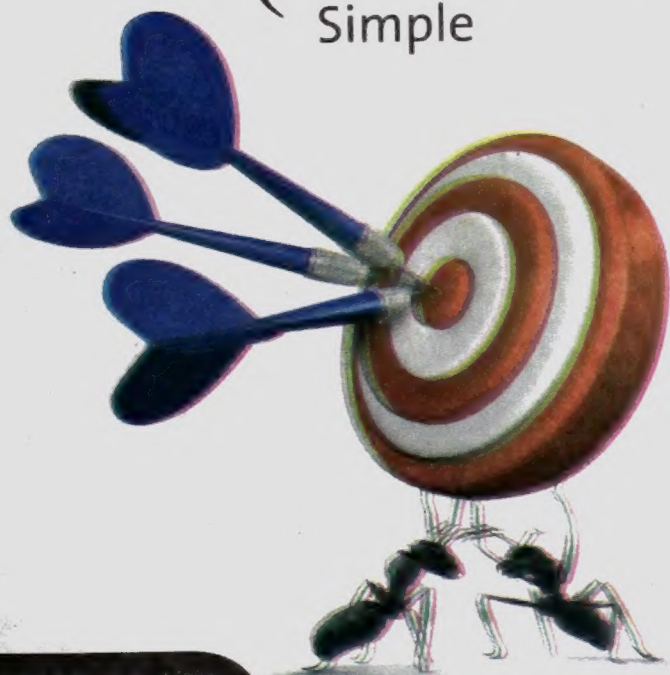
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Benjamin Moore

Too much of a good thing

WERE THERE TOO MANY EVENTS planned in Haliburton for one weekend? Would the success of one detract from the others?

People got their answer on both Saturday and Sunday when the entire county pulsated with hundreds of families embracing what winter – and a long weekend in February – has to offer.

The Haliburton Dog Sled Races are usually held in January but a scheduling conflict meant they had to be pushed back to February 14 and 15. This happened to coincide with the second annual family holiday Monday. To capitalize on the long weekend, Dysart et al decided to resurrect its winter carnival.

echo
editorial

martha perkins

Some people thought the carnival would compete with the races but this didn't appear to be the case. There were crowds watching the races at the Delta Pinestone Resort and crowds gathered at Head Lake Park for the carnival. Local residents decided to spend the holiday weekend having fun in their own back yard, cottagers realized that this was the ideal time for a trip to the Highlands and tourists had lots of activities to draw them to the area, whether for a day or the entire weekend.

You could spend an hour at the races and then head into town for a horse-drawn sleigh ride or to play games in the park. Mike Muli's ice sculptures were a sight to behold, glittering in the afternoon sun. It was magical to see families skating across the icy surface of Head Lake or along the gleaming river of ice in front of Pinestone. (The skating loop was originally intended to be an ATV track.) And to warm up in the evening there were dances in Minden and Haliburton, as well as a blues concert at the Delta Pinestone Resort. Sir Sam's Ski Area was also packed, its hills and ski chalet filled with people who wanted to make the most of a long winter weekend.

It turns out that the only conflict was between the timing of the holiday Monday and Valentine's Day. The winter economy in the Highlands can be sluggish so local businesses welcome both a three-day holiday weekend and the appeal of a romantic getaway to the Highlands. Valentine's Day, which fell on a Saturday this month, would have been enough to fill the local resorts and entice people to their cottages. As it was, resorts had to turn down reservations from people wanting to take advantage of the three-day weekend and outdoor events. Will those people decide to come up this weekend instead? Let's hope they do. Valentine's Day is enough of a draw on its own. It would be better for Ontario's tourist economy if the holiday weekend gave people an extra reason to shake off their winter doldrums. In January, no one's in a spending mood and we're getting too close to the March Break to have a holiday weekend later in the month. The first Monday in February would be the ideal time for a three-day weekend.

Winter is a beautiful season in the Highlands. We've developed a comprehensive system of Nordic ski and snowmobile trails. Sir Sam's Ski Area has invested in ways to keep downhill skiers coming back year after year. There are lots of ways to explore winter's charms. We just need people to know that they don't have to do it all on one weekend.



Not-so-crazy eight

Photo by Matt James

Baby boom

IS IT JUST ME, or are people having more sets of twins than usual, or than is natural?

Movie stars very seldom have just one baby at a time. Angelina and Brad just had twins. As did J-Lo, Julia Roberts and Lisa Marie Presley, to name just a few.

Obviously, the Beautiful People aim to stay as beautiful as they can for as long as they can, and don't want to go through the usual procedure more than once if they can help it because, as you normal souls all know, having babies is murder on the old bod.

And, of course, the old bod is a lot of what acting is all about. Furthermore, since science is moving rapidly forward in the babies by numbers area, I guess if you can produce an instant family and get right back to the movie set, why not?

Well, "why not" showed up recently when a Los Angeles woman decided to add a litter of eight to her already over-sized family of six. Now, other than the fact that this lady was not a movie star, and did not have an eight-digit income, and was more or less living on welfare, in her mother's already over-crowded bungalow, didn't have a live-in husband, or a TV show titled Fourteen is Enough, she did provide a week's worth of news for daytime television. And that should be worth something.

And by all accounts, it already is.

I have a feeling that this multi-family might also bring the birth of some new legal regulations for in-vitro fertilization.

In-vitro fertilization is a process used when all other methods of assisted reproductive technology have failed. In vitro is a Latin term for "in glass" or what has been coined as a "test tube" baby, the first of which was born in 1978. In vi-

tro allows fertilization to take place outside the woman's body and is then implanted.

The lady in question apparently implanted eight and, in what must be considered a perfect storm of gestation, all eight showed up alive and kicking a few weeks ago.

I'm going to let Dr. Phil and Oprah and every other talking head on national TV ponder the many legal, moral and practical questions involved in the above. I'm more interested in where the science of all this might be taking us.

Up until 1978, producing offspring was just doing a-what comes naturally for most of the world.

And, as much as we tried, planning a family was still fairly hit and miss. Contraception was about the only form of family planning open to us, and even that wasn't available to certain religions, which were more interested in building what they refer to as their flock than giving helpful family guidance. China has too many people and levies a fine to families having more than one child.

It's very dangerous regulation considering that all Chinese families want boys to carry on their name.

Bad news for being born female. If this plays out to the extreme, eventually there will be no Chinese people any more because they would all be men, and then all be gone.

Genetic selection is now possible although I don't see any upside to this science.

My crystal ball tells me that we will see genetic meddling, mixing and matching on a massive scale until common sense once again prevails. When we all start looking like Robert Redford and Beyonce it might be time for the authorities to take steps.

Unfortunately.



*ross
jarvis*

two-eight-six

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THE HALIBURTON COUNTY ECHO
is published by Osprey Media Publishing Inc.,
a division of

SUN MEDIA
A Quebecor Media Company

146 Highland St., P.O. Box 360,
Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0
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Canada Post #400638862 Copyright 2009

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ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

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Scars on ice

THERE IS A REASON THAT WE RUN SHARP BLADES or throw coarse salt on icy surfaces. It's called revenge. I never really understood this until my most recent encounter with a patch of ice.

It happened yesterday afternoon. I was minding my own business, climbing over a fence. On the descent, I looked down as I always do, and there was this patch of ice waiting for me.

It wasn't a big patch, but it reflected a surly and aggressive attitude right from the word go.

No doubt this punk was part of a local gang of ice, the kind that shakes down little old ladies just for fun. From the minute I saw it, I knew it was trouble. I've had enough tangles with ice over the years to know this much. We've danced this dance before.

"Get going," I mumbled, trying to show no fear, "I've got an ice pick and I'm not afraid to use it."

But it saw right through my little bluff and it did not slip away. Instead it sat silently; its cold, icy gaze was fixed on me.

I considered turning tail. But, if you discount the DVD controller, I am not a man so easily intimidated by inanimate objects.

Besides, that ice patch lost the element of surprise and it was all alone. I figured the odds were just about even.

Who knew that it had a black belt? As soon as both boots hit the

ground, it struck – kicking one foot out from beneath me. I'm not exactly sure what transpired next.

All I know is that it entailed several flips, two body slams, and a prolonged airplane spin.

And then I took my second step...

When you are in life and death situations like this one, time seems to stand still. You enter survival mode. I remember thinking that I must fight. I remember saying to myself that I could not give up. But it was too fast, too slippery.

Finally, I did the only thing that I could. I lunged for the fence. Just as my fingers were clinching upon the wire, it pulled me back down again and that got me mad.

I liken what it did to cornering an angry muskrat. I knew that if I ever wanted to see my family again, I had no choice but to fight and fight hard.

Suddenly, old wrestling moves from my childhood came flooding back to me.

I think the first Atomic Body Slam gave it pause for thought. So too did the elbow smash. And it didn't like when I pinned it to the ground and trash-talked it either.

"Summer's coming! Summer's coming, punk!" I yelled. "Are you feeling the heat now?"

After a few desperate minutes, we were both exhausted. So I got up, and with my dignity in tact, crawled to the nearest snow bank.

"Are you all right?" my daughter yelled from the back door of the house.

"Yes," I answered, as I grimaced and realigned several vertebrae. "Sorry you had to see that."

It's true too. Like any good father, I try to shield her from this sort of senseless violence.

That's why I salt our walkways.

But, as this incident proved, once you leave your own yard, anything can happen. The outside world is a cold, hard place and you need to have the kind of street smarts that I demonstrated to survive.

Am I shook up? Sure. Ever since that incident, I have not even been able to open the freezer.

But I will get over it. I won't let that one punky patch of ice have that much influence over the way I live my life. No sir, it's going to be business as usual here. I'm not going to lie down every time I'm waylaid by a slick surface.

Nor am I going to sit by idly and watch my friends and family fall prey to these cold, hard predators and their wise cracks.

I'm going to buy cleats, rock salt, and a scraper and take back the streets. They picked on the wrong hombre this time. I've still got a chip on my shoulders.

Those liberal-minded live-and-let-live folks can say anything they want. But next time, I'm packing heat.



steve
galea

Vinegar Hill



pic of the past

This photo takes us back to the year 1899 when Jack Maxwell of Gooderham was the warden of Haliburton County and reeve of the township of Glamorgan for many years before. The county council members of that era are shown posing for this picture in the council chambers.

letters to the editor

Elect MPP who stands up for health

To the Editor:

The Central East LHIN will certainly be looking at reducing health-care expenditures over the next year and onward.

In many areas of the province rural hospitals are closing emergency departments and reducing nursing staff.

Can anyone for one minute even believe the Conservative or Liberal byelection candidates say they will stand up and fight for rural hospitals?

Of course they will, but the Tories under Mike Harris cut back on health care, and every Liberal

MPP where hospital cuts have already happened has been unable to stop the cutbacks to health care.

In a time of economic recession Haliburton needs health-care jobs and services to sustain our economy.

Send a message to Queen's Park that health-care services matter.

Elect a MPP who will stand up for health. It certainly will not be a Tory or a Liberal.

John Van Beek
West Guilford

Poll data 'very odd'

To the Editor:

The release of two recent polls by Holinshed Research Group, a ritzy polling firm, on behalf of an unknown organization called Concerned Conservatives of Ontario is very odd. (Echo, February 10, 2009.)

The first poll was province-wide, the second specific to Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock, and both demonstrated that PC voters are losing faith in John Tory. None of us believes that the organization's spokesman, Walter Pamic, an electrician, really paid the tens of thousands that these polls cost. Could the MPPs and MPs who must want the leadership process to begin, please come forward? It is doubtless time for Mr. Tory to go, but we have a right to know who wants to be his replacement.

Richard Greene,
Cobourg

Another Internet is available

To the Editor:

If you are interested in high-speed Internet, I can share my experience with you.

After years of waiting for Bell to come up with their offer, I signed up for Xplornet - satellite system, basic pack.

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Airport expansion, water and roads part of \$9 million fund

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

Drivers between Haliburton and Minden won't have such a bumpy ride now that the provincial and federal governments have agreed to help Haliburton County pay for the last stretch of resurfacing on County Road 21.

The funding was announced Friday under the Building Canada program.

Each level of government will chip in \$876,000 to pay for the \$2.63 million county project. The money will pay for resurfacing a stretch of one of Haliburton County's busiest roads and repairing the Allsaw bridge.

Dysart et al will pay \$287,383 for its one-third contribution to the replacement of the Pine Lake bridge in West Guilford.

Minden Hills will receive \$802,000 from both the federal and provincial governments to improve the water system in Minden village.

The biggest windfall in the county went to Algonquin Highlands, which applied to the Building Canada Fund to help it pay for the \$3.8 million crosswind runway at the Stanhope Airport. Each level of gov-

ernment will contribute \$1,263,000.

Highlands East did not apply for the funding. "We didn't have anything construction ready," says Reeve Dave Burton, "but we did exceptionally well last year and we're getting ready for the next phase."

Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey says such funds help municipalities pay for larger projects, many of which would otherwise have to be financed entirely by property owners. Many municipalities are also planning to apply for funding under the federal government's stimulus package as part of the 2009 budget.

Putting on his county councillor's hat, Fearrey says that while he's pleased that Algonquin Highlands's application was approved he's also cautious about what it might mean for county taxpayers.

He says there's "no appetite" at the county table for the county to assume any financial responsibility for the airport, should that be what Algonquin Highlands proposes. "There's a fear it will be a financial burden," he says.

Burton agrees. He is also this year's county warden and he says, "I don't see the desire or support at the county table. It's something we'll have to look at."



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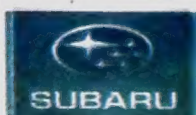


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Kids learn to curl

MATT JAMES

Staff Reporter

J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School teacher Sabine Murray is also a member of the Haliburton Curling Club.

And with the help of curling club membership co-ordinator Bob McNaul, the two thought it might be fun for the kids to experience the sport.

So every Tuesday from January 19 leading up to the March break, students in Grades 4 to 6 at JDHES will get to deliver rocks, sweep, and learn the etiquette of curling with the help of a few volunteers from the club.

McNaul is also hoping that any students keen to learn more about the sport might be interested in joining the junior curling program.

There is also a Junior Timbits Tournament for elementary student for Grades 4 to 8.

The tournament is put on each April by the Ontario Curling Associations and sponsored by Tim Hortons.

By the sounds of laughter we might even have a few future curling champs in the making.

For more information about the junior tournament and/or junior curling call Bob McNaul at the club at 457-2830.



MATT JAMES/Echo

Showing the technique he'd just learned, Devon Bangay stables himself with his broom.



Sydney Feir learns to deliver a rock from curling club veteran Bob McNaul.



Grade 5 students of JDHES learn how to sweep under the watchful eye of Bob McNaul.

Haliburton to host university Nordic ski race

MATT JAMES

Staff Reporter

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School graduate Emily Turner will be just one of 100 participants in the Ontario University Nordic Ski Championship at Glebe Park, February 21 and 22.

The race, sanctioned by the Ontario University Association, will see eight universities take to Haliburton's trails for skiing supremacy.

The University of Waterloo Nordic skiing head coach is Justin Faulkner.

In 1998 he raced in OFSAA at Glebe Park, one of the biggest races ever held in the province, and two years later participated in the OUNC in 2000, also held at Glebe Park.

For this year's race it was Faulkner's turn to find a host site for the championship.

"It's unfortunate that we don't have trails in Waterloo, but that means that we can choose, really, just about anywhere in Ontario to host the championship," Faulkner said in a phone interview.

As head organizer Faulkner didn't decide alone; he received feedback from his Waterloo team, who raced at Glebe last year in the regular university Nordic ski circuit. He asked then if they could think of any better site.

They couldn't.

"One is that I know they've got good quality trails you can race on, which narrows the selection down to probably a dozen," he said.

"The other is that [the club] is will-

ing to help out and they don't normally hold other big races, which means they're [available] and the volunteers are free and are willing to do it."

Faulkner, relatively new to Nordic ski coaching, was in the Haliburton area a few weeks ago to preview the trails and he'd forgotten how much he liked them.

"The trails are some of the more challenging in Ontario," he said.

"It's a great championship course and an enthusiastic group that we get to work with, so that's how it really all came together."

One of those energetic volunteers is West Guilford resident Peter Brogden.

In the past few years he and a handful of others volunteers, including upcoming race chief Blake Paton, have put in a lot of

work to make the park a challenging ski area.

"We want to promote [the club and park] so more skiers come and tell others about it," said Brogden. "And of course a group of skiers like them is great to have."

"I see it as an excellent way of promoting skiing in Haliburton," he said.

Faulkner says people are welcome to come out and watch.

"Assuming the weather's decent and if people are interested in racing they should come and see what it's all about," said Faulkner. "If you're interest in seeing where cross county skiing can take you or what cross country ski racing is like up close, I think it would be a good opportunity."

Races start daily at 10 a.m.



With dozens of happy spectators looking on, a musher in Saturday's eight-dog event gets off a flying start in front of the Delta Pinestone Resort.

They're off and running!

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

On Thursday afternoon, Tanya McCready felt the weight of the world on her shoulders – or at least the weekend plans of dozens of mushers and hundreds of people who were going to come to Haliburton to watch them race.

As she looked out the window of her home at Winterdance Dogsled Tours on Drag Lake, the rain was falling and the snow was continuing its disappearing act.

Should she cancel the Haliburton Dog-sled Derby?

"Mike Marsh of Wisconsin phoned me and said, 'The truck's loaded, the dogs are ready, tell me if I'm coming. I need to know by four,'" she recalls.

Environment Canada was calling for a return of winter's deep chill and a couple of centimetres of snow. McCready took a deep breath, trusted the weatherman's forecast and told Marsh to hit the road, the races were on.

By Saturday afternoon she could let out that deep breath and smile. The crowds of people lining the starting gate in front of the Delta Pinestone Resort were as happy as the dog teams setting out across the

See **February thaw** page 11



Anyone who thinks mushers force their dogs to race hasn't seen how excited the dogs are as they approach the starting line. A host of volunteers had to help the teams make the short trek from the parking area to the line-up of teams. It took all their strength to hold the dogs back.



Damian Robb of the Jamaican dogsled team sprints towards the finish line in the six-dog races. He's been living in Haliburton for the past month, using it as his base for this year's race circuit.



Mark Horwitz and Pamela Hewitt liked last year's races so much that they made the trek from Toronto for this year's races. After volunteering to help keep dogs on the right track, they enjoyed the late afternoon sunshine to watch the last of the eight-dog teams dash across Delta Pinestone's frozen golf course.



Crouching low for less wind resistance, a musher guides his still rambunctious team towards the finish line.



Making a break down a hill behind the Delta Pinestone Resort, a musher lets his team loose.



Jim Cunningham used to be one of the mushers at the dogsled derby. Now he acts as a knowledgeable host, sharing insights with the spectators.



With his dad Hank De Bruin, left, holding his dogs, and mom Tanya McCready looking on, back right, Dustyn McCready-DeBruin is set for Sunday's youth races.

February thaw makes for very fast racing

from page 10

three-kilometre trail cutting through the resort's 18-hole golf course.

Not that Friday wasn't a scramble. The February thaw hadn't damaged most of the trail but the 500 metres near the starting and finishing line were a slushy mess. There was even a section of open water.

"We spent six hours throwing snow into it," says McCready's husband Hank DeBruin. "We were grabbing snow wherever we could find it."

If more of the trail had been like that, it would have been too hard on the dogs' feet to allow the races to go.

As it was, the trail was hard and fast. The mushers' reaction to the easy glide, especially in the cool mornings, depended on their level of experience.

"It's a very, very fast trail," says DeBruin, who took a break from his own training for a 250-mile race in Maine to run the races with his wife and an army of dedicated volunteers. "If you're a pro, it's good. If you're a first-time runner, it's bad."

"One guy would come in and say, 'That was awesome!' The next guy would say, 'Holy s@#!, that was scary!'"

McCready adds, "They've all had to use their brakes around the corners."

One musher was injured Saturday morning when her dogs left the trail and she was thrown off her sled. The hook that is used to anchor the teams flew up and hit her on the back of the head. She was taken to Haliburton Hospital to get stitches but was back racing by Sunday morning.

Another musher needed a courageous volunteer to stop his team from running off when he lost control and the dogs continued on without him.

About 70 teams from Ontario, Quebec and the northern states converged in Haliburton for the races, which earn them points in the International Sled Dog Association circuit. Since races in Wisconsin and Michigan had been cancelled because of lack of snow, Haliburton was the place to be.

McCready says the only drawback was that they were missing perennial favourite Lou Serre, who is running bigger teams at bigger races.

John Teljeur of Delta Pinestone Resort, one of the sponsors of the races, says the races "really puts this place on

the map." His resort was full, as were most others in the county, in part because of the three-day family holiday weekend which coincided with Valentine's Day. (The Haliburton races are usually held in January but a scheduling conflict prompted this year's change to February 14 and 15.)

Every year there are more and more spectators, some of them returning each year because they love the event and the venue so much, he says. The mix of local residents, cottagers and weekend tourists was good to see.

Volunteer Donna McCallum says that some people arrive full of concern for the dogs. But once they see how excited the dogs are – how much the dogs want to race – they quickly become fans. She noticed that many spectators come with their cameras, eager to take the best shot of the teams in action. (Indeed. At times it seemed like the hottest competition was to see who had the biggest and fastest telephoto lens.)

The future of the races looks good. Subaru was the lead sponsor of the event and Nutram, which makes a popular brand of dog food, has agreed to continue sponsoring the purse money.



Mother Nature turned Head Lake into an ice skater's dream. Haliburton Village host the inaugural Frost Festival February 13 to 15 on the Family Day long weekend.

A fabulous Frost Festival...

Story and photos
by Matt James

Moderate temperatures and rain threatened the very existence of Haliburton's inaugural Frost Festival. But Mother Nature worked her magic and allowed hundreds of people to enjoy the Family Day long weekend in the great outdoors.

It was a "do you what you feel like" weekend. While the dogsled derby took place at Delta Pinestone Resort, Head Lake Park was host to dozens of events, including an outdoor movie, an ice slide for kids, snowshoeing, dogsledding, snowman building, and horse-drawn wagon rides.

The weather, however, forced a few last-minute changes. Just two days before Friday's kick-off Haliburton received approximately 38 mm of rain and, combined with above-zero temperatures, it washed away nearly a winter's worth of snow.

Temperatures dropped Thursday night and not all was lost for Andrea Roberts, just one of the Frost Festival's organizing committee members.

"The two days of rain on Wednesday and Thursday meant we had to scramble and change a few things," said Roberts.

The horse-drawn sleigh ride became a horse-drawn wagon ride for example.

Despite the weather and after all the time, effort, and organization that went into Frost Fest, Roberts said Sunday that

"It's been more than worth it."

And the warm temperatures and precipitation weren't all bad news – some sections of Head Lake became an ice skater's dream. And after a couple of floods and some TLC from Dysart et al fire chief Myles Maughan and members of the fire department, the man-made rink at the foot of Head Lake worked out quite well.

Haliburton Figure Skating Club coach Lesley Lumley and a few of her students held skating demonstrations to show off their skills.

"We should have this rink on Head Lake all winter long," said Lumley.

Roberts, who represents the village on Dysart et al council, also noted the outdoor rink's popularity.

"We're learning," she said. "We should probably maintain an outdoor rink every year. Things like that don't cost of a lot money."

On Saturday afternoon hundreds of people scattered around Head Lake Park watching Mike Muli transform blocks of ice into a full-fledged dogsled team while eating beaver tails at the Rails End Gallery's snack hut.

People were chatting with antique snowmobile collector Scott Walker, who had a few sleds on display and kids were having a blast on the ice slide. The kids even found a practical use for the political campaign signs, using them as sleds.

Visitors of Frost Fest were also building

See ...fuels page 13



A couple of Winterdance sled dogs prepare and play before the first ride of the day.



Kennisis Lake cottager and rookie musher Mike Neely and his first-time dogsledding daughters, Laura, 9, and Megan, 6, have at dog sledding Saturday afternoon.



Oshawa's Gavin Munro, 5, finally puts the political campaign signs to good use.



Allisa Ung, 8, of Toronto and her brother Lucas, 4, share a deep-fried beaver tail.

...fuels a weekend full of winter fun

from page 12

snowmen at Fleming College's Art Attack. People always waited patiently for a chance to be a passenger or a musher on Winterdance Dogsled Tours' two sleds.

With a perfect temperature and the sun shining all weekend Roberts was "thrilled with the outcome, especially the number of people from out of town."

At one of the picnic tables at the Rails End enjoying two of the 1,200 beaver tails (a type of cinnamon bun) sold on Saturday was the Ung family from Toronto. They'd learned of Frost Fest in a feature in the travel section of the *Toronto Star*.

Roberts says that attracting newcomer

such as the Ungs is one of the organizers' goals.

"The purpose of the event was not only to have a good family activity weekend for people that live here but to showcase what we have. And this is a pretty special spot, it's just been a wonderful weekend."

Part of the reason the festival ran so smoothly, says Roberts, was the manner in which it was organized and run; events were delegated to volunteer organizations or businesses that took care of everything to do with their particular event.

For instance the Haliburton and District Lions Club sponsored the pancake breakfast at the Legion, YMCA Camp Wanakita

sponsored some snowshoe relay races and games, and Winterdance sponsored the children's dogsled rides in the park.

When asked what the committee would do differently if the event were to continue, Roberts said that they could do with a few more volunteers to wear the bright orange vests and answer any questions our visitors might have.

As well, "the children's dogsled on Saturday were so popular we'd like to see that go two days," she said.

Throughout the day Roberts noted how good the mood was throughout the park.

"There were people waiting half an hour in line for the dogsledding and not

one complained," she said. "The whole atmosphere, there was an energy of just enjoyment."

"It's a long winter and especially this year it started early and with the economy this is something where people can just come out and play."

Roberts says she's on board for next year's event.

"I think we'll learn from the things that didn't work so well and the things that worked really well and probably make it bigger and better," said Roberts. "And if we had this many people come from out of town this could really put Haliburton on the map."



Ice sculptor Mike Muli, right, carved a delightful dogsled team at the Rails End.



It wouldn't be Family Day without families: the Oxleys and Christians take a stroll.



The ice slide was one of the busiest activities throughout the Frost Festival 2009.



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Shirley Howse, coordinator of the annual Tournament of Hearts bonspiel on Valentine's Day, congratulates the winning team of Kathi Oke, Ruth Hunt, Lois Welch and skip Kim Lewis.

Tournament of hearts exceptional event

WENDY VERMEERSCH

Special to the Echo

The 14th annual Tournament of Hearts ladies bonspiel was held on February 14 at the Haliburton Curling Club. Co-ordinator Shirley Howse and her committee of Luba Glachan, Pat Wright and Lorraine Virgin hosted an exceptional event. Magic Touch Day Spa and Foodland were the major sponsors for the spiel.

The overall winners and first draw winners was the team of Kim Lewis, Lois Welch, Ruth Hunt and Kathi Oke.

First draw second place winners were Emily LaRue, Glenda Wakely, Pat Dickson and Joan Hawley. Third place winners were the team of Ann MacNaull, Marla

MacNaull, Jan Ashall and Sabrina.

Second draw first place winners were Sandra Duchemin, Cathy Moss, Lori Perkins and Pat Wright. Second place went to the team of Mary Lou Mizzan, June Beadle, Rhonda Elstone and Laraine Shine. Third place winners were Beryl Rasmus, Mary Hambly, Jane Jaycock and Laurel Rasmus.

The most honest team of curlers was Mary Lou Waggett, Hilda Attridge, Ariel Campbell and Marilyn Bevan.

Many thanks go to:

Servers Jack Virgin, Bill Vermeersch, Neil Oke and Matt Dickson; bartenders Brian Daoust and Dave Moss; scorekeeper Phyllis Woodcock; ice maker John Watson and caterer Janet Tice.

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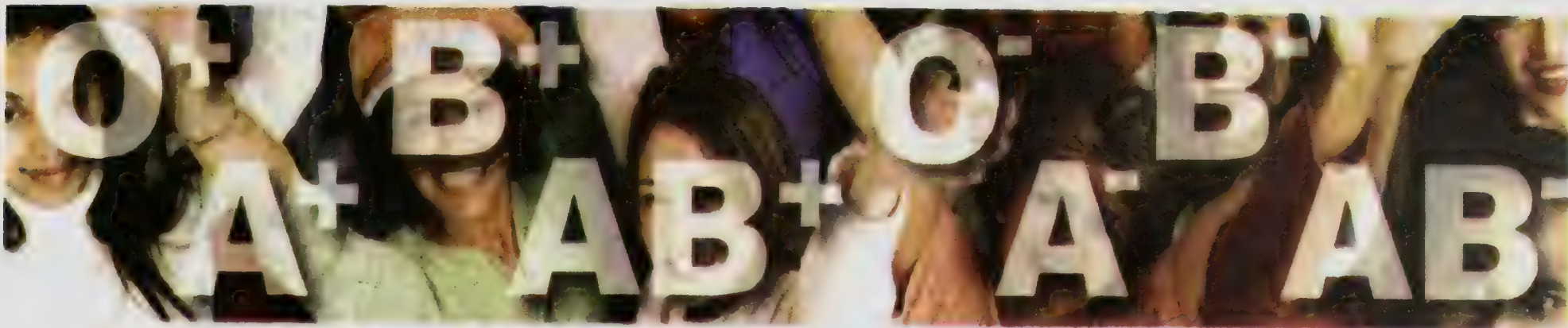
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MARTHA PERKINS/ECHO



Josiah Bain looks at some of the photos of his Australian relatives stuck on the fridge door at his Haliburton home. His mother, Pip, grew up near Melbourne and has been horrified by the devastating fires that have destroyed entire communities only an hour away.

Australia fires touch home, thousands of miles away

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

Even though she's thousands of kilometres away, Pip Bain is feeling a very deep connection to the people of Australia as they try to find the strength to cope with the devastating fires that have wiped out entire communities.

The young Haliburton mother grew up in Ringwood North, a suburb on the outskirts of Melbourne. She still has parents, grandparents and a sister there and while they are an hour away from the worst of the devastation, everyone has connections with the scenic alpine resort area that suffered horrendous losses. She went to camp in Marysville, which is now gone. When visitors came to Melbourne, she'd often take them on the scenic road through forests of the world's tallest flowering trees between Hillsville and Marysville. Until last week, "it was a sight to behold."

Melbourne was hot when she was growing up but there was only one day that she didn't have to go to school because the temperature was expected to reach 40°. One day last week Melbourne roasted in record 46° temperatures, an almost unfathomable heat.

Today she checks the Internet regularly for updates and phones or has webcam conversations with her family.

"I'd get on a plane tomorrow," she says of her desire to reach out to the people she loved.

Last week, when the fires were at their peak, she was up for much of the night with her young son Josiah. He was sick so she had lots of time to think when she was sitting in the rocking chair with him.

"You want to stay in such close contact – you want to know what's going on because you care so much," she says. "You find yourself crying for perfect strangers."

Australia often has bush fires in the summer – which is right about now – so she didn't realize things were quite so bad until her parents phoned her. One hundred and eighty people had died, some of them in their cars as they were trying to flee what has been described as almost apocalyptic flames.

"Some of the fires were 1,500°, four storeys high and coming at 100 kilometres an hour," she says. "The people in King Lake were told to hold tight because the fire was 25 kilometres away. In 15 minutes the fire was in King Lake and they were fighting for their lives."

"The sound of the fires sounded like every single jet engine just screaming. It would have been terrifying."

A fire's heat is measured in kilowatts. The volunteer

See **Some fires** page 17

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'Fires were 1,500°, four storeys high and coming at 100 km an hour'

from page 16

firefighters trying to control the fires can't work when the fire is more than 4,000 kw because it will melt their protective clothing. The fires in King Lake were 20,000 kw. Entire houses exploded with the heat; there aren't even skeletal remains of some of the people killed in their cars.

In the middle of the night, rocking 15-month-old Josiah to sleep, Bain couldn't help but think of those families trying to flee. "I was in turmoil trying to shut my brain off because I was visualizing the terror of the people."

Australia has been in a state of "massive grief" since the fires began. "Everyone seems to be effected. Everyone knows

someone affected by the fires."

But, she says, when something like this happens, Australia pulls together. In three days, people contributed more than \$72 million to the Red Cross for fire victims.

What's making it worse is the knowledge that some of the fires were deliberately set. "They're not well individuals," she says of the arsonists. "To light a fire on the hottest day, with such high winds and everything that dry, you know it's a recipe for disaster."

Her sister Kashena, who lives in the Melbourne suburb of Heathmont, can't help worrying that someone might light a fire in her area. "People were just foaming at the mouth [about the arson]. They want justice because it's a threat to everyone."

Yet there's also great compassion. "Everyone's just pulling together," Bain says. "Everyone is trying to help everyone and do what they can."



NOTICE (Applicant - DAVIDSON)

IN THE MATTER OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT AND IN THE MATTER OF A PROPOSED BY-LAW OF THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF HIGHLANDS EAST TO CLOSE, STOP-UP AND CONVEY CERTAIN PORTIONS OF AN ORIGINAL ALLOWANCE FOR ROAD ALONG THE SHORE OF ESSION LAKE, MORE PARTICULARLY HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001, and the Municipal Procedures, that the Township Council of The Corporation of The Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass at its regular meeting to be held at the Council Chambers, WILBERFORCE, Ontario on **Tuesday, the 10th day of MARCH, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.**, a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the following described lands:

Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance in front of Lot 24, Concession 16, Township of Monmouth, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part(s) 2 and 3 on a Preliminary Plan of Survey made by **Paul Wilson, O.L.S., dated January 6, 2009**. (Part 3 being the flooded portion to be retained by the Municipality of Highlands East).

The Preliminary Plan of Survey as referred to above is available for inspection during regular office hours (9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday) at the Municipality of Highlands East offices, Wilberforce, Ontario.

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that before passing the said By-Law at the meeting to be held at the time and place above mentioned, the Municipality of Highlands East shall then and there hear in person or by his or her counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his, her or their lands will be prejudicially affected by the said By-Law and who applies to be heard in person. The person who wishes to address Council should contact the Township office for delegation time.

DATED at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 17th day of February, 2009.

IRENE S. COOK, CMO CLERK/CEMC
County Road 648, Box 295
WILBERFORCE, ON K0L 3C0



COUNTY OF HALIBURTON LAND DIVISION COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS FOR CONSENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 53(5)(a) of the *Planning Act* and Section 3, O.Reg. 197/96, as amended, that the following Applications for Consent have been submitted to the Haliburton County Land Division Committee, the consent granting authority in these matters.

AND FURTHER THAT at its meeting to be held **Monday March 9, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Administration Building, County of Haliburton Office, 11 Newcastle Street, Minden, Ontario, these Applications for Consent will be heard by the Land Division Committee:

- File No. H-001/09
Applicant: HARCOURT PARK INC.
Location of the Property: Pt. Lots 15 & 16, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Harcourt
Nature of the Application: Lease
- File No. H-004/09
Applicant: Wayne, Heather & Scott McMULLEN, Tracey WIEDMANN
Location of the Property: Pt. Lot 31, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Dysart
Nature of the Application: Right-of-way
- File No. H-013/09
Applicant: Michael CURRIE & Steve HACHEY
Location of the Property: Pt. Lot 31, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Dysart
Nature of the Application: Right-of-way
- File No. H-014/09
Applicant: LONE WOLF VENTURES INC.
Location of the Property: Pt. Lot 32, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Dysart
Nature of the Application: Right-of-way
- File No. H-015/09
Applicant: Diana FERGUSON
Location of the Property: Pt. Lot 32, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Dysart
Nature of the Application: Right-of-way

Additional information regarding any of the above-noted applications is available for public inspection at the Land Division Office by appointment during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent does not make written submissions to the Land Division Committee before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss the appeal.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the undersigned.

Dated at the Township of Minden Hills this 17th day of February, 2009.

Jane M. Tousaw, A.M.C.T.
Director of Planning
County of Haliburton
11 Newcastle Street
P. O. 399
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0
Telephone: (705) 286-1333, or
866-886-8815 ext. 222
Fax: (705) 286-4829
Email: jtousaw@county.haliburton.on.ca

Legal Notices



PUBLIC MEETING

ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE USE ON CITY OF KAWARTHA LAKES RIGHT-OF-WAYS

The City of Kawartha Lakes will be holding a public meeting on
Wednesday, March 25th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.
Coboconk Community Hall
9 Grandy Road, Coboconk

The purpose of the meeting will be to collect input from the public on the proposed network of All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) trails (north of CKL Road #8) within the City of Kawartha Lakes.

Documentation relating to the ATV trails will be available for review at 12 Peel St. (Public Works Operations) by Tuesday, February 16th, 2009.

Anyone wishing to speak at the meeting is asked to contact Karey Oliphant at 705-324-9411 ext. 1171 or toll free at 1-800-822-2225 ext. 1171, or by email koliphant@city.kawarthalakes.on.ca. Public speaking will be limited to 2 minutes per person.

All input gathered at this meeting will be consolidated as part of the final report to City Council.

Teamwork helps *Echo* and *Times* notch awards

from page 1

In the general excellence category, newspapers are judged based on editorial, photography and layout. The nomination would not be possible without the photography and reporting of Matt James, Jenn Watt, Greg Hoekstra, Suni Karir and Martha Perkins. In addition, the production skills of Wanda Factley helped secure one of the top three spots.

In a rather humorous touch, the *Echo's* Steve Galea is up for yet another Humour Columnist of the Year award but this year his competition includes fellow County Scene Investigator conspirator Greg Hoekstra. The *Minden Times* submitted

Hoekstra's CSI humour columns, which appeared in *Cottage Times* every week and described his antics with none other than Steve Galea!

Hoekstra has also been chosen as one of the province's top three photographers. In a class open to all newspapers, regardless of circulation, he's competing against Rob Mooy of *Kingston This Week* and Graham Paine of the *Milton Canadian Champion* for the top spot.

Hoekstra is guaranteed a hat trick of awards because his *Minden Times* photo feature of a spring visit to Casey Cox's farm is up for Best Photo Layout in the open circulation class.

Jenn Watt's investigative series on pov-

erty in the *Minden Times* is in the top three for best feature series and her profile of *Minden* playwright Michael Fay earned her a top-three placing in the Heritage category.

Martha Perkins' profile of the courage of Dawson Hamilton in the *Minden Times* is up for the best feature award.

All three writing competitions were open to any newspaper with a circulation less than 10,000.

It was a real team effort that gave the *Summer Guide* its top-three spot in the Original Advertising Idea category. The popular guide to all the wonderful things happening in Haliburton County was compiled by Amanda Schwartz and is the

result of the hard work of the sales staff – Laura Smith, Molly McInerney, Ashley Chandler and Sarah Adams.

And finally, a *Haliburton Echo* promotion ad – You Be the Judge – is in the running for In-House Promotion.

Staff work all year long to make sure the *Times* and *Echo* are the best newspapers they can be. These people include: David Zilstra, Angela Russell, Faye Paul, Sabrina Sisson, Laurie Curry, Linda Emmerson and Laura Chowzun.

The rankings – first, second or third – will be announced at the OCNA convention in Toronto on April 17.

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THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

Winter's Here!

Have you got something to read over the cold months?



Law takes tobacco-free ban into outer spaces

BY SIREESHA BOBBILI
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge
District Health Unit

Young children in motor vehicles can breathe a bit easier these days.

In January, a new Ontario law came into effect making it illegal for anyone to smoke in a motor vehicle when youths under age 16 are present. Anyone caught breaking the law can be fined up to \$250. This type of tobacco ban is long overdue, especially when a child's exposure to deadly second-hand smoke in an enclosed vehicle can be up to 27 times greater than in a smoker's home (Ontario Lung Association).

With children now safe from deadly second-hand smoke in vehicles, should they not get the same protection when playing

outdoors? Yes, and that is why it is time to limit tobacco use in outdoor spaces where children are present.

Recent studies indicate there may be a danger of breathing in second-hand smoke if someone stands in close proximity to a smoker. So even outside, children are at risk from second-hand smoke.

If you want to take the tobacco-free effort further in your community or promote it to a coach or sports association, go to the Play, Live, Be Tobacco-Free web site, www.playlivebetobaccofree.ca.

Every day, approximately 37 Ontarians die from the effects of smoking and second-hand smoke. Protecting the health and well-being of children should be a priority, and that includes limiting their exposure to tobacco – inside and outdoors.

Let board of education know if you want video conferencing to continue

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

Members of the public who take advantage of the video conferences offered by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board may want to fill out a survey on the board's website.

While the board's committee-of-the-whole meetings take place through video conferencing technology from locations in Lindsay, Minden and Brace-

bridge, the board is considering shutting down video conferencing from "remote locations" in Minden and Bracebridge since some members feel the public does not make adequate use of the service.

Board communication officer Jeanne Pengelly said the survey should be appearing on the board's website in the near future.

Regular board meetings are made available to the public through webcasts.

The board's website can be found at www.tlidsb.on.ca.

Peterborough Regional Health Centre Corporation Seeks Corporate and Future Board Members

PRHC
Peterborough Regional Health Centre
by your side

The Peterborough Regional Health Centre is seeking individuals who reflect the characteristics of the region being served by the Corporation (including Peterborough, Northumberland and Haliburton counties and the cities of Peterborough and Kawartha Lakes) to become members of the hospital corporation and Board of Directors.



As a Member of the Corporation You Will:

- Be invited to attend and participate in votes at the Annual General Meeting and any special meeting of the corporation as called by the Board of Directors.
- Receive various mailings and communiqués throughout the year with regular updates on events/issues related to PRHC.
- Be asked, from time to time, to provide input on related hospital issues.

As a Board Member You Will:

- Have the abilities, qualifications and skills to realize the potential of the new hospital.

How to Apply for Corporate Membership:

- Contact PRHC at 743-2121 Ext. 3715 and request a "Membership Application".
- Complete the application form, outlining your interest and qualifications to contribute to PRHC, and return to the hospital no later than March 6, 2009.

How to Apply for the Board of Directors:

- Submit expressions of interest to Doris Brick, Chair, Nominating Committee, c/o Sharon Mindle, Executive Assistant, Administration, Peterborough Regional Health Centre, One Hospital Drive, Peterborough ON K9J 7C6 along with a resume no later than March 6, 2009.

Membership Application is available on the PRHC web site www.prhc.ca



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There is room for 30 bridging students to enter the sec-

ond semester of the program in January 2010.

The part-time bridging program will be offered at the college's campuses in Peterborough, Lindsay and Cobourg. The courses will start March 2 and are open to students who have a Personal Support Worker Ontario College Certificate.

Individuals can apply for the bridging program through Fleming's School of Continuing Education and

Skilled Trades. Applications and course information are available on the college's website at www.flemingcollege.com/pswbridge. Candidates may be eligible for financial support through Ontario Special Bursaries or Canada Student Loans for part-time students.

If you are interested in the program and would like more information, please contact Dorothy Hopkins at 1-866-353-646 x 2232 or dhopkins@flemingc.on.ca.



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School is vital to Wilberforce's economy: parents

from page 1

Enrolment at WES has been dropping over the past five years. In 2002, Wilberforce had 100 students. Today that number is 58. Likewise, at its peak, Cardiff had 300 students. It now has 59. When student numbers begin approaching the 50 mark, that's when school boards look to program and accommodation reviews, said Kathy Verduyn, the director of education for Trillium Lakelands District School Board.

As part of the process of the committee, "valuation frameworks" are established to evaluate the importance of the school to the board, the student, the community and the economy.

These same sentiments played into the

impassioned presentations given by community members Wednesday night.

Ken Sanderson argued that the real estate values of area homes would drop without a school close by for children. His opinion was that in Cardiff that wouldn't be as much the case because of the community's proximity to Bancroft and the fact that it didn't evolve as a community, but was constructed as a mining town.

He recounted his own education at WES and pushed the committee to build a new school rather than close any school.

"We are in a time when we should not close anything down. We are in a time when we need jobs, we need teachers, we need progress," he said. He noted that WES was actually the result of eight other schools shutting down over the years.

Nancy Bird, the mother of four kids, said she worried new families wouldn't come to the area if the school was gone.

"There has to be something here to draw new families into our community. Without our own school people might not even consider moving here," she said.

Kathy Rogers was most concerned about the safety of the children. Sending very young kids away to another community on a long bus ride wasn't safe, she said.

"The school board wants our children to be healthy and active – they only want whole wheat buns and no chocolate bars for fundraisers – but it's okay to sit on a bus for an hour-and-a-half or two hours a day," she said.

According to the slide presentation given at the meeting, some students in Cardiff sit on the bus for an hour already. In Wilberforce the longest bus ride is 45 minutes.

People at the meeting refused to advocate for the Cardiff school to close, but rather tried to think of solutions to keep both schools running.

"It feels like our two schools are being pitted against each other like it's one or the other," Rogers said.

Van Dusen had her own solution.

"Without hesitation, I truly believe the best solution would be to keep both schools open," she said.

"Realign the grades at these schools so that one school will operate as a JK to Grade 3 and one school as a 4 to 8. This would mean bringing back Grade 7 and 8 to the students of the Wilberforce area, which would increase the total enrolment. This solution would increase the numbers in each grade, thus eliminating the triple grade classes and possibly allowing single Grades 3 and 6 classes, those all important EQAO testing years," she said.

"Wilberforce Elementary School will be celebrating in 2010 the 100th anniversary of the original one-room schoolhouse opening its doors. Let's not minimize that celebration by closing its doors the same year and silencing the original hand-rung school bell," she said.

The committee has a form available for those who want to send proposed solutions for consideration. They can be found at every school's front office and will be posted on the school board's website.

The next public consultation meeting is April 1 at 6 p.m. at Cardiff Elementary School. On May 20 there will be another at WES at 6 p.m.

Feds accused of hiding change

from page 1

"They're hiding it among other things. It's like, well, we're going to give you this big economic pie, by the way, there's a bomb in it. It sort of looks like that," said Gary George, property manager of the Whitewater Preserve in Minden.

George, along with the Lake Ontario Waterkeeper association, the University of Ottawa's Ecojustice Law Clinic and a group of concerned boaters, canoeists, kayakers and conservationists, have been pushing to have the amendment removed from the budget to be discussed separately with more oversight from the public and MPs.

One of the most contentious pieces of the amendment is a switch from the current approvals process that developers have to go through to build something like a bridge on a body of water to one where the minister of transport can exempt types of construction and types of water from the approvals process altogether.

"[Currently] there are approvals required when there are works that are going to go up, over, around, underneath a navigable waterway. Any time you're going to affect a navigable waterway the minister has to approve it," said Will Amos, a staff lawyer at the Ecojustice law clinic.

"That's the first checkpoint. The next checkpoint that comes with that approval is any time there's federal approval for work on a waterway it triggers an environmental assessment," he said.

"If you don't need the approval – which is what they're going to do, they're going to take away approval requirements – if you don't need the approval you're not going to get the environmental assessment. So there'll be fewer approvals, fewer environmental assessments," he said.

Local MPP Barry Devolin said that the bill is not as sinister as its being portrayed. The provincial environmental assessment process will still be done, but there will be less "duplication and redundancy" along the way.

"This [amendment] will not exempt projects from provincial environmental assessments," he said in an interview.

"I don't agree with the suggestion that this will lead to projects going forward without environmental oversight," Devolin said.

What's worrisome to Amos – who was a long-time camper and staff member at Kilcoo Camp – is that there is no indication what types of waterways or construction projects would be exempt.

"We won't get to know because they can do it by ministerial order, which doesn't require any notice, no publication of it, no consultation, done. Flick of a pen. That's why this is so dangerous," he said.

The Lake Ontario Waterkeepers have similar concerns. They say that these changes are disguised as a way to remove red tape from government and allow more economic development, but in the end it simply puts waterways at risk.

"In reality these laws are the only things standing between citizens and a massive sell-off of our waterways from coast-to-coast, be it through pollution, development or diversion," the group wrote in a press release.

George thinks the approval process serves a function to protect both the environment and the rights of Canadians to use water for transportation. He admits the process might be clunky, but it's a necessary process nonetheless.

"I'm sure that somebody who's trying to build a power-generating dam would tell you they've got to leap through far too many hoops at all the levels of government, but so be it," he said.

Amos isn't against changing the act, but thinks it needs to be done in public with debate and consultation.

"Basically, we're saying delay. We're trying to be reasonable about this. We're saying take it out. We're willing to engage with it later on, but don't put it through the back door on the budget, on this omnibus bill," he said.

Devolin said that's not likely.

"The two main parties have looked at this as a package and we want [it] to happen and not get tied up endlessly," he said.

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New karaoke game a hit at Legion branch

community news

legion br. 624

Mel Smith

448-3680

The Wilberforce Legion continues to be a very popular place due to the efforts of the many volunteers who work so hard organizing the many great weekly activities.

This week we are trying something a little new following our Friday evening spaghetti dinner: karaoke with a challenge. Come out and have fun singing and playing and compete to be number one. It only costs \$5 to enter. This should be fun, so come out on Friday night at 9 p.m. and see if you are good enough to be number one.

It is that unkind time of year again. That time to gather up your T4s, receipts, etc., and get ready for that much dreaded income tax time. Income tax support will be available at the Legion from March 4 to April 22 every Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 3 the students of Wilberforce Elementary School will be presenting their speeches at the Lloyd Watson Centre at 11:30 a.m. If your child or grandchild is taking part in this event, please give them your support and share your own positive public speaking experiences with them. Make it a "teachable moment." Also, please come out and hear the students present their speeches. Your support will be most welcome.

We thank all those who arranged this past weekend's St. Valentine's dance and all those who make the following weekly events possible.

February 18: Open darts 7:30 p.m.

February 19: Eucharts 1 p.m.

February 20: Spaghetti Supper 5 - 7 p.m., \$6 adults, \$3 children

February 20: Karaoke 9 p.m.

February 21: Meat draw 3 p.m.

March 3: Student public speaking, Lloyd Watson Centre 11:30 a.m.

March 4 - April 22: Income tax program every Wednesday from 2 - 4 p.m.



A rock concert for kids

To the delight of dozens of excited boys and girls the second instalment of the 2009 Razzmataz Kids Shows was held at the Northern Lights Pavilion on February 8.

The quartet of Sho Mo and the Monkey Bunch - drummer Lyle Molzan; singer Shoshana Sperling; electric guitar Graham Powell; and singer bass/guitarist Maury LaFoy - "is creating an army of children who will be the heroes of our world," as the band states on their website, www.themonkeybunch.com.

With topics such as the environment and the electric car, the band believes in empowering kids and introducing them to the positive ideas of today so they can become the great leaders of tomorrow. Show organizers are thankful for the support of dozens of local sponsors and the community.

Catch the next Razzmataz Kids Shows! at the Northern Lights Pavilion Sunday, March 1 featuring Major Conrad Flapps, whose musical comedy will have kids dive-bombing with laughter.

Photos by Matt James



Sho Mo and the Monkey Bunch singer Shoshana Sperling belts out a tune (above) and interacts with one of dozens of kids in the crowd.

Parents bring concerns to school review committee

community news

wilberforce

Hilda Clark

448-2018

A portable classroom at the Wilberforce Elementary School was packed, but not with the French class that learns there. It was concerned residents who came out despite the pouring rain on Wednesday evening, February 11. They came to share their concerns about the future of the Wilberforce school, to give their input, to make known their feelings about this place of learning that has served the people of this community for many, many years. They came concerned for the children, their education, their safety and their wellbeing. They came to learn first hand how the declining enrollment situation at our school is being considered.

Members of a committee formed by the Trillium Lakelands School Board called PARC, which stands for Program and Accommodation Committee, listened attentively and answered questions. They explained that this review of the enrollment at the Wilberforce and Cardiff Village schools is being conducted according to a formula set down by the provincial Ministry of Education.

Presenters touched on the advantages of being a student at the Wilberforce school. They spoke of the support given by the community including the free use of the public library, the arena, the Lloyd Watson Centre and the curling club as well as volunteers who help at the school. They worried about children as young as three having to

experience long bus travel that might be necessary under certain possible changes. They spoke of the effects on businesses in the community and on real estate values if there is no school in the village. Why would young parents stay here or others move here if there is no school nearby? They questioned whether a province-wide formula for making decisions about closing schools with declining enrollment was fair to schools in rural areas. Many felt it was better for youngsters to attend a school reasonably close to their homes rather than spending up to an hour both night and morning on school buses.

Both schools will remain open for the school year 2009-2010. No decision will be made until the committee has had a second round of public input meetings. They are scheduled for April 1 at the Cardiff School and May 20 at the Wilberforce School. Then the committee members will consider all they have heard and make recommendations to the school board. The trustees will make the final decision probably by December 2009 so that there is time to make necessary changes well before September 2010. Written input submissions are still being accepted. Call the office of the Director of Education for the Trillium Lakelands School Board at 1-888-526-5552 extension 22104 for information. Or drop by the Wilberforce school for forms.

A covenanting service for the Rev. Patsy Henry will take place at the Wilberforce United Church on Sunday February 22. It begins at 4 p.m. with dinner to follow the service. Rev. Henry has been in the Tory Hill charge since November 2008 serving the congregations of Gooderham and Wilberforce. Living in Wilberforce at least part-time she is becoming very much part of the community. This

coming Sunday people from the community are invited to join in this service to welcome her into our midst. The Rev. Ceri Rees will be the guest preacher. Sorry for getting Rev. Rees' name wrong last time.

When the Highlands Male Chorus presented their Singing Away The Winter Blues concert on Sunday, February 15, they did just that. Their well-rounded program so well delivered was as uplifting as the beautiful sunny winter day outside. The audience at the Northern Lights Pavilion, including several from Wilberforce, was provided with an afternoon of fine four part harmonies in an interesting variety of numbers. They ranged from Lennon and McCartney's "All My Love" to Stan Rogers' "Northwest Passage." The choir moved easily from "Sixteen Tons" and "This Train" to Richard Wagner's Pilgrims' Chorus from Tannhauser. Arrangements of pieces such as "Skip To My Lou" and "Down By The Riverside" had great audience appeal.

To hear "Sea Fever" arranged for men's choirs brought back memories of learning the old poem on which it was based. How did it go? "I must go down to the sea again, To the lonely sea and sky. And all I need is a tall ship, And a star to steer her by...." Amazing how music can stir one's emotions! "In My Daughter's Eyes" touched many as the choir sang it from their hearts as they did the closing number "Unchained Melody" which the men seemed to singing to their loved ones.

It was good to see and hear Stan Beard and Mark Bramham from Wilberforce singing their hearts out in this fine concert. Again thanks to director Melissa Stephens and accompanist Betty Mills for their great contributions to this choir and this concert.

Saying goodbye to a special man

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper
754-2278

Not only did Haliburton lose a favourite resident in the passing of Blaine Sisson, but the Guilford neighbourhood where he grew up, the son of Andy and Shirley Sisson, lost a dear, dear relative as well. Blaine's popularity was evinced in the large crowd that attended the reception and memorial service held at the W.G. Centre on Friday, February 13, 2009. Brian Plouffe, pastor of Lakeside Baptist Church, said the grace before the generous meal of beef-on-a-bun (cooked by Wade Stamp). Brian also led the memorial service and gave people a chance to speak of their connection and affection for Blaine.

Many were the family connections who attended. Equally large in number were the friends who gathered. Our heartfelt sympathy encompasses all who will sorely miss the vibrant company of this beloved man. Connie and family, Shannon, Spencer and Michael and their families, have our deepest sympathy for this great loss.

The Art Hive hosted a Valentine pajama party on Friday evening. We were welcomed by the artists, given a delicious soft drink – red in colour because of Valentine's day – invited to browse along the stands of artists' work, and to make a Valentine's card at a table. That eligible bachelor you heard of at this event was a finely carved doll called Art, dressed in a red kimono and posed in various ways due to the well-jointed limbs, which his carver had made. Jonathan Hagerty was responsible for this carving and for other carved works there are well.

April Gates, Lisa Berry and Sharon Lynch all contributed to the display of pottery. Portraits by Noelia Marziali are most expressive.

Other work includes paintings by Sandy Slote, weaving by Wendy Wood, fabric designs by Sandi Luck and Darby Bailey. Kathleen Atkinson-Hindle and Erin Lynch and her son Seamus created cards and basketry by Sheila Ziman was another attractive feature.

I'm not sure who created the jewellery, but it was so beautiful.

It was fun to be there and be photographed with eligible bachelor Art, who may put in an appearance at further events and venues over 2009.

Euchre scores last Tuesday night: Kirk and Nick Biljetina with high scoring, Tina Hadley and Bill Geddis scoring lowest and most lone hands going to Myra Marshall and Al Mahaffey.

Find a doctor with new online service

For the first time, information about local health services is available in a single place: www.ontario.ca/health-careoptions. Using this site, people can find the nearest walk-in and after-hours clinics, urgent care centres, family health teams, general practitioners and emergency rooms by typing in their postal codes.

The new service is being updated regularly, and will soon be expanded to offer information on all front-line health services in Ontario including Community Care Access Centres, laboratories and long-term care homes.

The government is also introducing Health Care Connect, a new program to help people find a family health care provider. Ontarians can call 1-800-445-1822 to register with the program, and those who need care most will be helped first.

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community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

Post your event for free on the web.

Go to the Haliburton Highlands Community Calendar link at: www.haliburtonecho.ca

Having an event this summer? List it for free in our Summer Guide! 2009SummerGuide@gmail.com

- February 17: Exploratory meeting about the creation of a Haliburton Village Farmers' Market. - Please join us at Fleming College. Social time is 5:30 pm, Soup, using as many local ingredients as possible, and potluck dinner at 6pm. Films at 7pm, presentation by Jean and Godfrey Tyler, group discussion at 8pm. Call Jean Tyler at 457-2214 for details.
- February 19: Guided Meditation continues at the Rails End Gallery – Facilitated by Ryan Dawson every Thursday evening 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Everyone welcome, admission is by donation. Positive visualizations to quiet the mind, calm the body and stir the spirit.
- February 20: Circle of Hope – Hospice Kawartha Lakes hosts a drop-in grief support group for the newly bereaved from 12-1:30 pm at 112 McLaughlin Road, Lindsay. Light lunch provided. For more information call 324-2811 ext 3.
- February 20: Lochlin United Church presents an Evening of Gospel Music with The Hot Flashes – Join us at 7:30 pm. Lochlin Road off Gelert Rd (Cty Rd 1). Refreshments following. Offerings, gratefully accepted for the Church Outreach Work.
- February 21: Maple Lake United Church Musical Variety Night at 7 p.m. - Come and join us at the Maple Lake United Church. Freewill offering and refreshments.
- February 24: St. Georges Anglican Church 70th Annual Pancake Supper at the Haliburton Legion Hall – Come and join us from 5 – 7 p.m Cost is \$15 per family, \$5 adults, \$3.50 children 6-12 and under 6 yrs is free.
- February 24: Fenelon Falls United Church Pancake Supper – 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Adults \$7. Children 12 and under are FREE. Contact Church office 887-3040.
- February 26: Guided Meditation continues at the Rails End Gallery – Facilitated by Ryan Dawson every Thursday evening 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Everyone welcome, admission is by donation. Positive visualizations to quiet the mind, calm the body and stir the spirit.
- February 26: Haliburton Legion Branch 129 Ladies Auxiliary General Meeting – will be held at 1:30 p.m. Members please note the change in date and time.
- March 1: S.E.A.L Meeting at Bobcaygeon Municipal Service Centre – Join us at 2 p.m. Speaker Frank Smith on sustainable gardening and sustainable living. All welcome, come and join in. Sustainable ecological alternatives for living, www.sealweb.org
- March 6: Circle of Hope – Hospice Kawartha Lakes hosts a drop-in grief support group for the newly bereaved from 12-1:30 pm at 112 McLaughlin Road, Lindsay. Light lunch provided. For more information call 324-2811 ext 3.
- March 6: Haliburton County Folk Society presents Winter Folk Camp at the YMCA Wanikita. For more information see www.winterfolkcamp.com.

Events listings are provided FREE for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editor@haliburtonecho.ca, or brought in to the office.

Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date.

NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands. For more Ongoing Community Events please see the Weekender.

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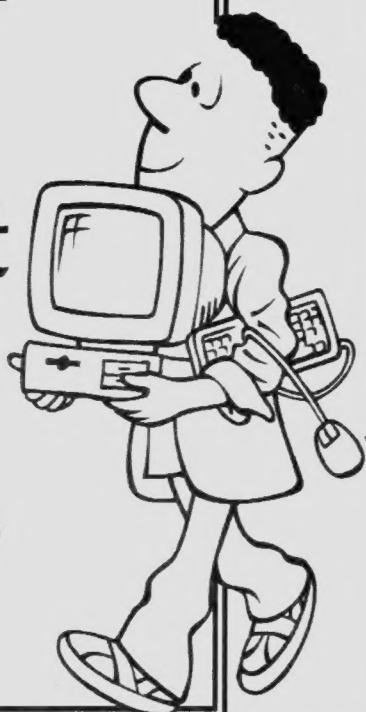
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Offering lessons in piano, singing, organ
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Adults and children. Many years of teaching
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New Puzzle Each Week In**

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Houses A650

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A940

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As Estate Specialists we manage the sale of
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Volunteers

A960



Front Line Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in assisting victims in
a supportive role, volunteer applications
are now being accepted for victim service
training. As a trained victim service
provider you will work as part of a
volunteer team by responding immediately
to victims of crime and/or tragic
circumstance in The City of Kawartha
Lakes and Haliburton County.

If you are over the age of 18, can commit
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training program,

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Or Email us at: vcars@nexicom.net to
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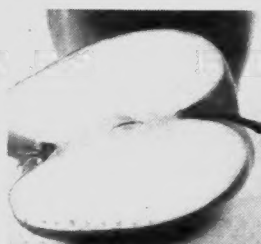
Announcements

Thank You Cards



SIRCH
Community Services
& Consulting

would like to thank Nutram, The Delta Pinestone
Resort, Winterdance, Vista Signs and
The Haliburton Soap Factory for their generous
support of our Healthy
Children Program at the Dog
Sled races on February 14th &
15th, 2009.
We simply couldn't do it
without you!



Thank You Cards

In memoriam



Thinking of how much you mean to
those who lives you touch

And feeling
thankful for the love you've given
and shared so much

Happy Valentines
Love Mom & Dad
and family

In loving memory of Kevin
Bunn who passed away
February 15th, 2002.

Announcements

Deaths

*Time takes away the edge of grief,
But memory turns back every leaf.*

Memoriam Verse #39
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

11284457

Birthday greetings

Happy 65th
Birthday!



Fern Bellwood
(Carpenter)

February 18, 2009

Love,
Your Family

Deaths



McKNIGHT, Dale Clifford - Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Friday, February 6, 2009. At the age of 63. Beloved husband of Susan (nee English). Dear father of Dwayne, Lesia and her husband Dave Shaw, and Tina. Dear son of Norma and her husband Joe Maguire and the late Harry McKnight and brother of Everett and his wife Ruth, Norm and his wife Marion. Loving grandpa of Christina, Stephanie, Jason, Joshua, and Christopher. Fondly remembered by his nieces, nephews, family and friends. Friends are invited to visit the family at the **GORDON A. MONK FUNERAL HOME LTD.**, 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden on Monday from 2-4 and 7-9 pm. Funeral Service in the chapel on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the family centre at the Funeral Home. Cremation to follow. Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (H.H.H.S.F.) would be appreciated by the family. www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

11408420

Deaths

SISSON, Blaine Murray - Passed away peacefully at his home in Haliburton on Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at the age of 62. Beloved husband of Connie (nee Young). Dear father of Shannon Feir and her husband Derek, Spencer and his wife Lori, Sheri Griffiths and her husband Clive and Kevin Guerin and his wife Sabrina. Stepfather to Kyle and Katrina Robinson. Loving grampa of Nathan, Sydney, Shayla, Logan, Reanna, Zoe and Kathryn. Dear son of the late Andy Sisson and Shirley (nee Cooper). Brother of Helen and husband Ronald, Bernard and his wife Joyce, Iris and her husband Joseph, Erma and her husband Ronald, Byron and his wife Sylvia, Aldyth and her husband Curry, Eleanor and her husband Richard, and Earle and his wife Louise. Fondly remembered as a lover of life by his friends and family. He will be missed. Friends and family are invited to the West Guilford Community Centre of Friday, February 13, 2009 from 4:00 until 7:00 pm, with a time to celebrate and share stories of Blaine's life at 5:00 pm. There will be a private family interment in the spring. In lieu of flowers, Memorial Donations to the Four C's or to the Highland Wood Residence Council would be appreciated and can be arranged through the **GORDON A. MONK FUNERAL HOME LTD.**, P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

11412811

SUCHOV, Andris Alfreds - Passed away at the Haliburton Hospital surrounded by his family on Wednesday, February 11, 2009. At the age of 55. Best friend and loving husband of Lorienn. Wonderful father to Kyla and Karlis of Haliburton, Jason (Kristen) of Calgary, Jana (Chris) of Fredericton, N.B. Loving grandpa to Lauren, Maddie and Anya. Beloved son to Rasma and the late Alfreds, brother to Eriks (Lucy) of B.C., and uncle to Andreas, Chloe, Rosalia, and Ellsisa. Andris will be greatly missed but always remembered by his many family and friends. Cremation has taken place. His Life will be Celebrated by a Private Family Memorial Service in Toronto. Any Donations in Andris' Memory can be made to the Canadian Cancer Society or the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (H.H.H.S.F.) and can be arranged through the **GORDON A. MONK FUNERAL HOME LTD.**, P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0. The family wishes to extend a sincere thank you to Dr. Ferracuti and the many nurses who cared for Andris, along with the staff and nurses at the Lakeridge Health Centre, Oshawa. www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

11413820

Card of thanks

The family of the late **Ronald Johnson** would like to say thank you to all the staff at Extendicare, Haliburton over the past year for their caring and help looking after Ron. Also, Wendy from Paramed, Dorothy Owens for all her support and guidance. I would like to thank my special friend, Colleen for being there with me through this very trying time. I would also like to thank Haliburton Community Funeral Home, Dwaine Lloyd and his staff for all the assistance and help, you are all wonderful and caring. Thank you everyone who came to the memorial service for Ron, it meant a lot.

Judy Johnson and Family

11409920

In memoriam

HUNTER, Ronald G. Hunter - In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather who passed away August 1963.

HUNTER, S. Dennis - In loving memory of a dear son, brother, father and grandfather who passed away February 21st, 2002.

*We hold you close within our hearts
And there forever you'll remain
To walk with us throughout our lives
Until In Heaven we meet again.*

Always remembered and forever loved
Mabel, Sharon, Paul, Bonnie and Craig
and Don and Karen and Families.

11413415

*Although we smile and make no fuss
No one misses him more than us.
And when old times we oft recall,
It's then we miss you most of all.*

Memoriam Verse #19
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today



11285520

Obituaries

Obituaries



Charlotte 'Lottie' Nicholls (Resident of Wilberforce, Ontario)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Thursday morning, January 29, 2009 in her 93rd year. Predeceased by her husbands William Mathews and Bert Nicholls. She leaves her sons Dan (Arlene), Bob and Rick (Teresa). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Toni, Sherry (Bill), Parish (Julie), Traviss, Jason, her great grandchildren Tom, Samantha, Katie, Michael, Tyler, Dakota, Wyatt and her great great granddaughter Madissan. Predeceased by her grandson Ben, her granddaughter Robbin, and great grandson Mathew. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

Visitation & Memorial Service

A Memorial Gathering will be held at the **MAPLE VIEW APTS** 2117 Loop Road, Wilberforce, Ontario on Saturday afternoon, February 21, 2009 from 1 until 3 o'clock. Interment later Resthaven Memorial Gardens, Toronto. As expressions of sympathy donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209. www.communityfuneralhomes.com

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and Victoria
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explaining many of
the options available to you.

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Ken Barry*
Haliburton Office
457-1011
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\$270,000
PINE LAKE

Neat and tidy waterfront home with single detached garage and full, partially finished basement. The lot is level, faces west and has a good sand beach. Pine is part of a 3 lake chain offering great fishing. Close to shopping, skiing and golf.



Peter Brady*
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.234



\$299,000
PRIME NEW 440'
SAND & SUNSETS!

Beautiful & much envied Eagle Lake. A very large private new prime lakefront lot ready for your custom 4 season home. Call Peter now to discuss custom building plans for this summer.



Terry Carr
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.236



\$189,000

Have you looked into what Gooderham has to offer lately? This immaculate 4+ bdrm. home comes with an acre of land and frontage on a breathtaking, scenic pond with rock faces. The park-like setting will make you never want to leave your home. Quick access to amenities up the road from stores and restaurants to public beaches, yet a backyard that offers all the peace and quiet you could ever ask for!



Vince Duchene***
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.225



\$154,900
GULL RIVER

Three bedroom home situated on a park-like setting. Boat to 3 lakes (Maple, Grass & Pine). Full basement, FAE heat & woodstove. Loads of potential!



Rick Forget* & Iona Fevreau
Wilberforce Office
448-2222



\$189,900
HARCOURT

2 storey home, 3 bdrms, office, den, family room and more, over 1900 sq. ft. of living space, with eat in kitchen, oak cupboards, and hardwood ash flooring. Also, almost 2 acres of property with mini bar and double size garage with workshop.



Bill Kulas
Minden Office
286-2911
Ext.44



\$568,500
BEECH LAKE GETAWAY

Exclusive and one of a kind! This luxurious and spacious, open concept design features: hard packed sand beach with southern exposure, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, office/den, gym, tennis court, two car att. garage and much more! Value-priced way below replacement value. www.BillKulas.com for the virtual tour.



Cathy Lancia*
Kennisis Lake Office
754-4242



\$1,100,000
LITTLE KENNISIS LAKE

Majestic Scandinavian-scribed Pacific log home on well treed exceptionally private 2.9 acre property. 3 bdrms, 4 baths, floor to ceiling stone FP, rugged rocky lot. New bunkie with 3 pc. bath & loft.

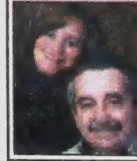


Denise LeBlanc
Minden Office
286-2911
Ext.33



\$149,900
HALIBURTON VILLAGE

Cozy, comfortable, very good move in ready to go! Set on a lovely lot with a beautiful view of the lake. Features include a covered veranda, cathedral ceilings, metal roof and new appliances.



Marj & John Parish
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.226



\$699,000 + GST
ENTIRE PRIVATE LAKE FOR SALE!

7000 Feet of Shoreline, 272 Acres, Lake is Approx 45 Ft. Deep, One of a Kind Investment Opportunity!



Elizabeth Thompson
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.248



\$299,900
STOTHART CREEK

Another elegant custom home being built on .85 acre corner lot 9. This 1826 sq. ft. 2-storey home features 3 bdrms, 2 baths, covered front porch & dbl. garage. Geothermal heating & cooling and other innovative technologies make this highly energy-efficient with great monthly savings. Call for details.



Steve Brand
Minden Office
286-2911
Ext. 45



Fred Chapple
Minden Office
286-2911
Ext. 43



Tom* & Gail Tempest
Minden Office
286-2911
Ext. 41



Melanie Vigrass
Minden Office
286-2911
Ext. 40



Troy Austen & Linda Baumgartner*
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.231



\$309,900
SKYLINE PARK

Tastefully decorated 2 + 1 bdrm home, close to town. Open concept, maple floors, master bedroom with ensuite, screened porch, full bsmt, att'd garage, circular driveway, nice private setting.

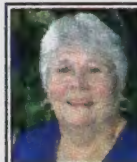


Geoff Bunn
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.242

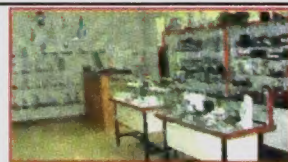


\$149,900

GREAT YOUNG HOME
or more... for sale... only a short drive to the lake... for swimming... automobile trails are close by... relax and enjoy the peace & quiet that Haliburton Highlands has to offer.



Madeline Doyle
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.250



\$89,000
HALIBURTON BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY!

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Marilyn Hawley
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.237



\$1,200,000

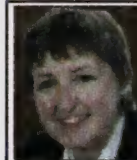
On fabulous Lipsy Lake, this 1 yr. old 4 bdrm. post and beam cottage exudes quality and whimsy. The 398 ft. of waterfront offers the perfect mix of natural, deep, rock-shelf with a great sandy, gradual entry area for the kids. More features than could ever be listed here!



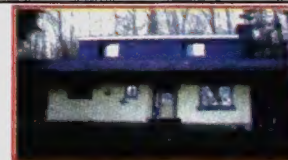
Debra Lambe
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.244



GREAT BUSINESS LOCATION!
Well established TURN KEY automobile repair business and dealership for sale in Village of Haliburton. Great Hwy 21 exposure. Approx. 3500+/- sq. feet/5 yr. old building. Town sewers. Excellent books. Suits many uses. Contact Debra Lambe or Peter Brady for further details.



Lynda Litwin
Minden Office
286-2911
Ext.35

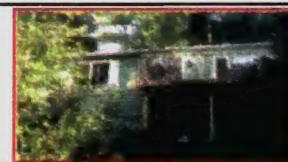


IN TOWN HOME

Large family home with screened in porch, 1.49 acres, 3 bedrooms plus loft over garage, walk out basement, large living space. Rental income established. Call for details.

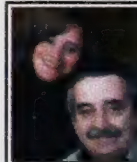


Karen Nimigon*
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.224

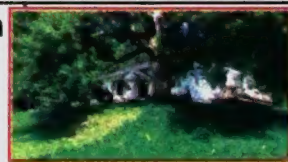


\$289,000
SOUTH LAKE

4 Season cottage or home. Full Walkout basement Sand Shoreline, West Exp., Year Round Access.



Marj & John Parish
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.226



\$225,000 + GST
GREAT COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL

2.2 Acres, Sewers Available, 3 Bedroom Bungalow, Detached two car Garage, Official Plan Designation is Commercial. Minutes to Haliburton.



Ted Vasey
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.223



\$247,500

IMMACULATE COUNTRY HOME
Tastefully finished with a warm and bright interior - hardwood floors & broadloom throughout - oak kitchen with built in app - w/o family rm. to screened deck with hot tub - 2 fireplaces - separate dining rm. - 3 + 1 bedrooms - mbr ensuite - main floor laundry - many upgrades - 2.18 ac of privacy close to Haliburton.



Jeff Wilson
Haliburton Office
457-1011
Ext.233



\$182,000

A 3 bedroom bungalow home situated on a private lot only minutes to Haliburton Village. This spacious bungalow has a fully finished basement with rental income. Well worth a look!



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